



## Defending the Gospel

November 13, 2022

CG Discussion Guide

### CATCHING UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the things that Jesus has been up to in our lives since we last saw each other. As A church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

*Suggested time: 10 minutes*

- What can you thank God for this week?
- When were you most aware of Jesus' presence this week?
- When were you least aware of Jesus' presence this week?

### REVIEW THE MISSION

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go because Jesus changes everything. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20) · *Suggested time: 10-15 minutes*

- People:
  - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
  - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, Serve CLT partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Charlotte)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve, and build relationships with this group?
- Plan:
  - Are there any hangouts already planned, or an extra hangout we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?
- Pray:
  - Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

## SCRIPTURE AND SERMON DISCUSSION

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, show us our sin, and strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Community Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25) · *Suggested Time: 30-40 minutes*

### Read Galatians 1

1. What is the Holy Spirit showing you in these passages about God or about yourself?

### Recap the Sermon.

2. What did the Holy Spirit teach you through the sermon? What comforted you? What convicted you?

In the sermon we learned that syncretism is the twisting and distorting of the gospel, causing our faith to be less shaped by Scripture and more shaped by the things of this world, such as:

- Politics (both right and left)
- Consumerism
- Individualism
- Self-Help

3. How have you seen this in your own life? In the world?

In order to defend the gospel, we must be willing to untwist or deconstruct what has been twisted in with the gospel by:

- Making scripture the priority
- Being willing to suffer
- Dealing with our inner Pharisee
- Reconstructing a beautiful Church.

4. How can you step into defending the gospel in those ways?

## SPIRITUAL FORMATION PRACTICE

We want to not simply be hearers of the word, but doers. This week's practice is "Defending the Gospel". The Practice Guide can be found at [citizenscharlotte.com/do-what-jesus-did](https://citizenscharlotte.com/do-what-jesus-did).

## CARE AND PRAYER

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)

*Suggested Time: 30-45 minutes.*